

## GIRLS HANDCUFFED TO BEDFORD CELLS

Guard Confirms Ruth Carter's Story of Ill Treatment in Reformatory.

### TOES KEPT OFF OF FLOOR

Soap and Water Also Forced Into Mouths of Refractory Prisoners.

Thomas Quinn, a guard at the Bedford Reformatory for Women, gave details of the disciplinary measures alleged to have been the rule at the institution at an inquiry held by John S. Kennedy of the State Prison Commission at Bedford yesterday. Ruth Carter, the inmate whose trial on a charge of assaulting a female guard caused the inquiry, gave testimony that tended to confirm that of Quinn that young women were hung against cell doors by handcuffs. Another form of punishment, it was testified, was to force the head of a refractory prisoner into a tub of cold water and hold it there until she ceased to struggle.

In describing cases where girls were disciplined by extreme measures Quinn told of a girl named Elizabeth Nichols who "rebelled" last June or July. "She seemed insane," he said. "Three or four of us went into her cell. One threw water on her. It was cold water." The girl continued to struggle and scream, Quinn said, so her head was "dipped" into a pail several times. Each "dip" lasted from thirty seconds to a minute. The girl did not scream, Quinn said, but she swore fearfully. The dipping process being ineffectual one of the attendants took a towel, Quinn said, and wrapped it around the girl's head. "Soap and water were forced into her mouth," said Quinn. "All that the girl said was, 'My insides are burning.'"

#### Water Cure Common Practice.

Quinn said that the soap and water treatment was unusual, being applied only in cases where the inmate was extremely violent. The cold water treatment, applied with the girl hanging from handcuffs attached to a cell door with her toes touching the floor, was the "uniform practice" in disciplinary measures, he said. It was used twenty-five or thirty times a year. At the conclusion of this process he described the girls as being "all in." They were left in that condition in cells in which there was no bed, he said.

In reply to a question by Humphrey J. Lynch, counsel for Ruth Carter, Quinn said that in cases where cold water was applied "one dip was as good as five if you kept their heads down long enough." He explained that he referred to "dips" while the girl was hanging against a cell door. He declared that on August 1 a girl was attached to a cell door so that her feet did not touch the floor. He said that she managed to get the heels of her shoes in between the bars so as to support her body, but that an attendant on the outside kicked the heels free. He said that he could not remember this girl's name.

When the Carter girl took the stand it developed that her name is Anna Wood, that she had been an inmate of the House of the Good Shepherd in Brooklyn and a patient in the psychopathic ward at Bellevue Hospital. Permission was given to her to tell her story in her own way.

#### Tells How She Was Strung Up.

"On August 19, 1918, Mrs. Henrietta Hoffman and Miss Julia Mingo, the assistant superintendent, with Quinn, came to my cottage, got hold of me and took me to the prison in the Rebecca Hall Building," said Miss Carter. "My hands were handcuffed behind my back. I was strung up on the door of my cell. My feet did not touch the floor. I stretched and tried to touch the floor but my toes would not reach it."

"Did you kick some of the attendants?" asked Daniel T. Hays of Pleasantville, one of the board of governors. "Yes, I kicked them while they were strapping me up. My wrists were all cut by the handcuffs."

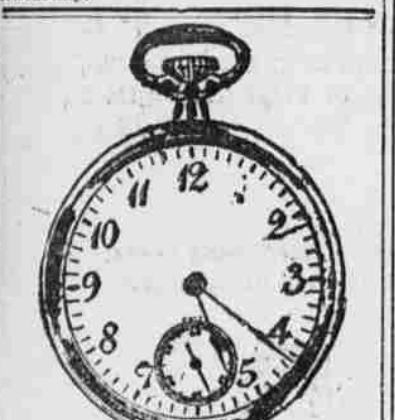
"How long were you in the prison?"

"Thirty days."

"In an open cell?"

"No. I was put in a box cell so the girls could not hear me cry."

The witness said that beginning on Easter Monday of this year she was wrapped in a blanket and handcuffed to a cell door for three consecutive days. She was fed on bread and water. The handcuffs were not removed. "Mrs. Hoffman held the cup of water to my lips and then the bread," she said. The inquiry will be continued next Saturday.



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## MEXICO ULTIMATUM DELAYED BY MURDER

Continued from First Page.

States there are practically no foreign warships in Mexican waters and it is believed that in case of disturbance European nations will endeavor to have their citizens get out as soon as possible. The seriousness of the situation is indicated among other ways by remarks made by officials in answer to inquiries and by the obvious fact that changes have been deemed necessary in the note. While none of those in high places would say anything stronger than "the situation is serious" or "there is no reassuring news," the tenseness of things is marked.

Senator Hitchcock (Neb.) was emphatic in declaring the situation serious and said that a fixed and vigorous policy was necessary.

When Congress is convened on Monday it is understood the State Department will be asked for all the facts in the Jenkins and Wallace cases, and will be requested to state what steps have been taken to have Jenkins released

and have the murderer of Wallace arrested and tried for the killing.

At the Mexican Embassy to-day no information was forthcoming, and it was stated that no statement would be made for the present. So far as is known, Ambassador Bonillas has had no further personal conversations with Secretary Lansing, and it is understood that the communication between the two countries will both come and go through Charge d'Affaires Summerlin in Mexico city.

Ambassador Fletcher, who for some months has been on detail here from his Mexican post, has been in constant consultation with Secretary Lansing, and his knowledge of conditions has naturally made him one of the important factors in the preparations of the note. Summing up the situation as it existed to-day it was evident:

1. The United States is determined to bring to an end such Mexican questions as the present.
2. Words will not be spared to indicate the anger and impatience of the United States.
3. An ultimatum will not go forward until the United States has determined that its position is absolutely correct in international law.
4. Force will not be used until Mexico has had one last chance to remedy so far as possible the wrongs she has inflicted on Americans.
5. If force is used it will be to the utmost power of the nation, even if it leads to the occupation of the entire country between the Panama Canal and the Rio Grande.

At Tampico and feeling fine," Mr. Wallace cabled in response to the anxious messages which officials in this country had sent. Mr. Wallace sailed from Port Arthur, Tex., November 18 on a tank ship. News of his arrival at Tampico was received here, but the report that a man named Wallace employed by the Gulf Refining Company had been killed in the Tampico district aroused great concern.

Edward A. Lyon, district sales manager for the company, at whose office the cable was received, said that undoubtedly Mr. Wallace was alive, as he could not have been slain after the filing of the cable. He said that his company employed a great many men in the Tampico district, as they have many oil wells and pipe lines and much other property there. He did not know anything about James Wallace, but said it was possible that his company employed some one of that name.

## JENKINS FACES ONLY CHARGE OF PERJURY

Puebla Governor Explains Case to Newspapers.

LAREDO, Tex., Nov. 29.—The State of Puebla, Mexico, has no intention of trying William O. Jenkins, American consular agent, on a charge of conniving with bandits in connection with his recent abduction, Gov. Alfonso Cabrera of Puebla told press representatives, according to a Mexico city newspaper, *Excelsior*, under date of Thursday, a copy of which was received here late to-day. The only charge against the Consul, the Governor is quoted as having said, is that of perjury in judicial declarations, which is solely within the jurisdiction of the court where the offense is committed.

SANTIAGO, Chile, Nov. 29.—The *Nacion* says to-day it has learned from well informed diplomatic circles that there is a possibility of mediation by the Governments in the A. B. C. group (Argentina, Brazil and Chile), with the object of composing the difficulties that have arisen between the United States and Mexico over the case of Consul Jenkins.

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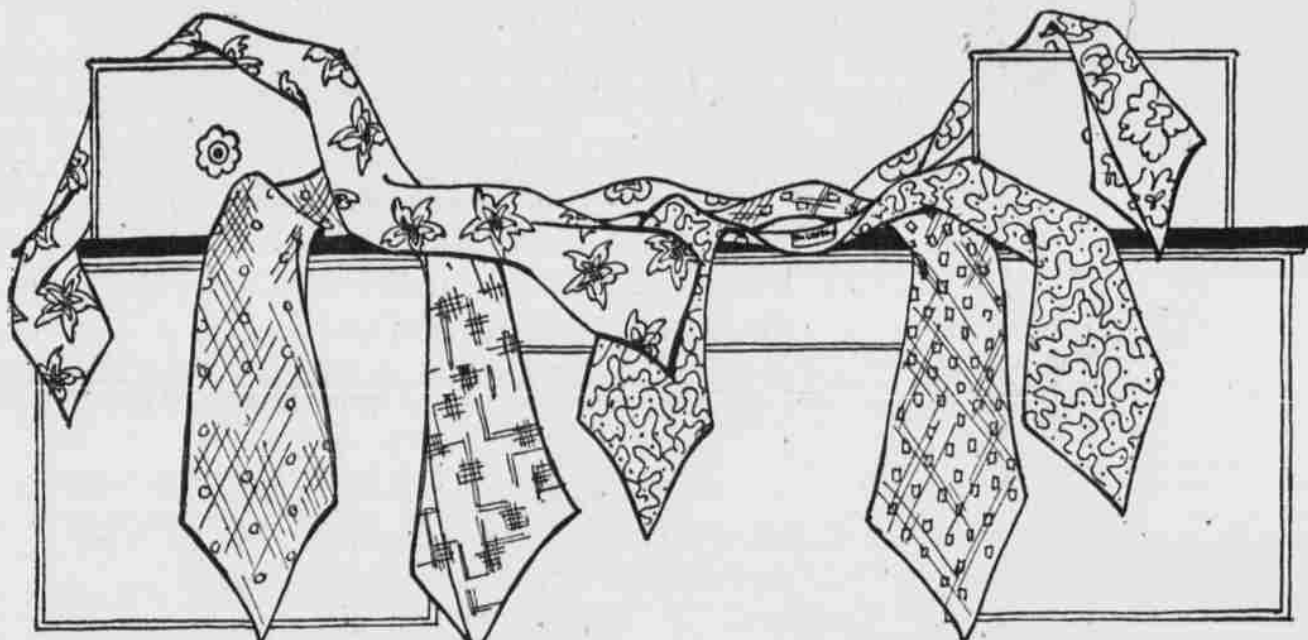
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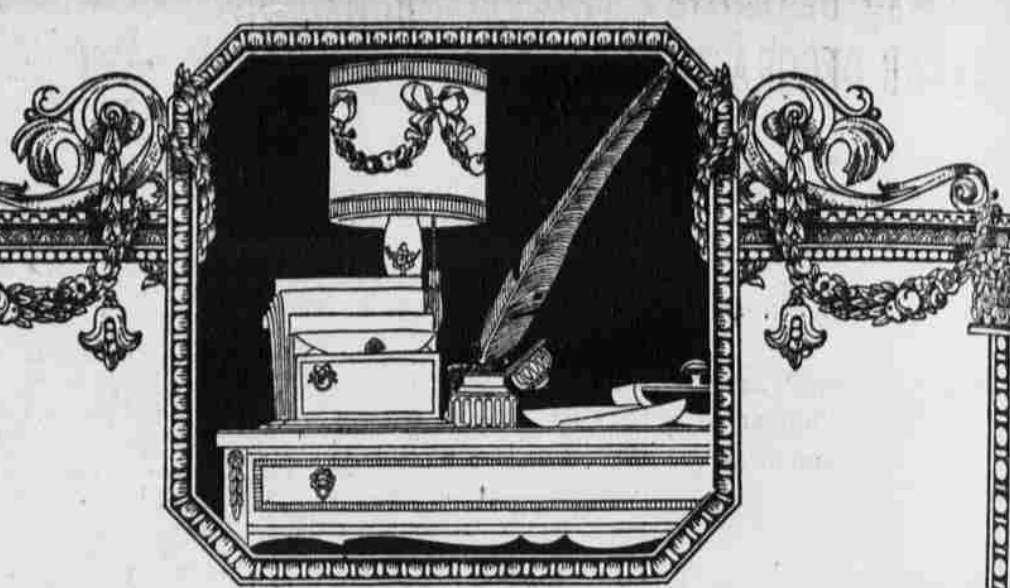
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